

## Sinnott Bares Checks at City Graft Inquiry

Member of Hylan's Kitchen Cabinet, Father of Mayor's Son-in-Law, Faces Legislative Investigators

### Meyer Warns of Tricks

Hearings Held in Private Because of Administration's Attitude, He Says

James P. Sinnott, Commissioner of the Board of Water Supply, and father of Mayor Hylan's secretary and son-in-law, John F. Sinnott, was examined yesterday at a private hearing of the joint legislative graft investigating committee.

Commissioner Sinnott, who came with his bank books, cancelled checks, check stubs and other documents showing his financial dealings since his appointment as a member of the Hylan kitchen cabinet, refused to reveal the nature of his examination. Like secrecy was observed by the members of the committee.

Charles D. Donahue, minority leader, of the Assembly, tried to have the examination of Sinnott conducted publicly, but was unsuccessful.

After Sinnott had been examined before a sub-committee of five, consisting of three Republicans and two Democrats, Corporation Counsel John P. Schuyler M. Meyer, chairman of the committee, demanding that henceforward all hearings be held in the open, to which the press and the public would have admittance, and that the committee "obey the law as laid down by the court."

### Meyer's Letter to O'Brien

Senator Meyer in discussing the O'Brien letter with newspaper men said that the Appellate Division had not held that the hearings should be open, but that the committee could not punish a witness who refused to be sworn before a sub-committee. He also wrote a letter to the Corporation Counsel, which read:

"When the city administration honestly and in good faith cooperates with the committee instead of trying to outwit it, the committee will be glad to permit your representatives to be present at the examination of witnesses."

"At the proper time the committee will hold public sessions, when the public will be permitted to judge for itself whether its work will contribute to the welfare of the city."

The letter of Corporation Counsel O'Brien follows in part:

"As you and your committee well know, Mayor Hylan and his heads of departments under his jurisdiction have, from the moment when your committee began its work, emphasized their policy as a matter of law and public policy the meetings of your committee and sub-committees at which testimony is taken should be public."

"The Appellate Division, after hearing an appeal from the decision of Judge Whitaker, decided that you had no authority in law to appoint sub-committees of one to take testimony, and that your committee had no power to take testimony in private."

"I understand that in view of the decision of the Appellate Division you have continued to take testimony in private and also before committees of more than three. As the chief law officer of the city and the representative of the Mayor and the officials directly under the jurisdiction of the Mayor, I protest against this procedure, and I insist that you and your committee obey the law as laid down by the Appellate Division upon the presence of three members of the committee at every meeting of a sub-committee at which testimony is taken and, further, upon your refusal to open the proceedings to the representatives of the press, to my representatives and to the public at large."

Through a scene created yesterday at the headquarters of the committee by Mrs. Mary Gordon, of 172 Essex Street, it was learned that the probers were interested in the Rev. Dr. Samuel Buchler, at one time the Jewish chaplain of Sing Sing and now a Deputy Commissioner of Markets under Mayor Hylan. Dr. Buchler recently charged that Max Hirtenstein, the doorkeeper at the committee's office, had threatened to cut his heart out and skin him and then sell his skin on the street.

Mrs. Gordon, after having waited in the reception room of the committee for three hours, was told that she was not wanted yet. She replied that it was unfair to keep her waiting and then on her, dragging her away from her children, and threw the subpoena on the floor. She told the newspaper men that the committee wanted to know of the efforts of Dr. Buchler to bring about the release of her brother, Hyman Berger, a prisoner in Sing Sing.

None of the committee members will discuss the object in subpoenaing Dr. Buchler, but Dr. Buchler talked freely about the case.

"For the last five years," said Dr. Buchler, "I have assisted the wife and four children of Mrs. Gordon's brother. He has been in the State Prison, District Attorney Lewis, and several others in an effort to get a pardon for Berger, but because of the man's record I was unsuccessful."

Mrs. Berger, the prisoner's mother, and his wife, together with Mrs. Gordon, who has been subpoenaed by the committee, called on me about two years ago. They said that Berger's family was on the verge of starvation. They suggested that they would retain

"Old Dobbin" in the ice business to stay. He has a personal interest and intelligence in house to house deliveries no motor can supply." Knickerbocker has more than 1,000 horses. Old timers know their horses—know when a customer's house is boarded up—can read ice signs in the windows when customers are home, say the drivers.

Knickerbocker horses are as clean as well as cared for as the pets of a racing stable. Evidently they can tell time, for they arrive so nearly at the same hour every day you can "set your clock by them."

**Ice Delivery a Personal Service only horse Sense can give**  
N. Y. Sun

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**Company**

William Jacobs, a lawyer, of 299 Broadway, to assist them in bringing about Berger's release. Jacobs, who related then deposited \$150 with me, to be transmitted to Jacobs if he was successful. Mr. Jacobs, as the records at Albany will show, tried to get Berger pardoned, and when Governor Smith refused to release the man I returned the \$150 to Mrs. Gordon, and have her receipt for it.

Dr. Buchler threw a bomb into the committee when he exposed the criminal record of one of its investigators, whom he recognized as an ex-convict.

**May Railroad Earnings \$7,997,000 Over April**

Total Is \$37,246,000, Being 2.41 Per Cent on I. C. C. Valuation

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Railroads of the country earned \$7,246,000 in May, or \$7,997,000 more than in April, according to reports filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission by the carriers and made public today by the Association of Railway Executives.

Earnings for May amounted to 2.41 per cent on the valuations tentatively fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission for rating purposes, compared with 2.2 per cent in April, the executives said. Operating expenses in May amounted to \$5.4 per cent of the revenues, against \$6.69 per cent in April. The reduction, the statement declared, was brought about by "various efficiencies" which the railroads have placed in effect since the total slump began last fall.

Total operating expenses in May were \$444,566,000, while operating expenses totaled \$379,715,000. Carriers in the Eastern district earned \$1,644,444 in May, or 2.29 per cent on their tentative valuations, operating revenues being \$203,794,000 and operating expenses \$173,693,000.

## Giant Catcher Batters Rum Locker Raider

(Continued from page one)

formed a ring, encouraging both fighters alternately. Cozy Dolan, Giant coach, yelled his name to "play for the slats," while Frank Snyder, Catcher Smith's "sidekick" behind the plate, besought Smith not to kill the "poor boob."

"Long George" Kelly pleaded with Smith to "put the poor guy out of his misery before the cops come."

Detective Dolan made a good attempt to appeal from the decision of Judge Whitaker, but he was turned down. Dolan's nose and turned his end for end. It was the finish. Dolan rolled over twice, got to his knees, then to his feet, and walked off. He managed to gurgled out that he would return later with reinforcements.

The players hung about for more than an hour expecting further manifestations of police activity, but none were forthcoming. Manager McGraw, who was present, said that he was glad to permit your representatives to be present at the examination of witnesses."

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## Hylan's School Muddle Halts Building Plans

Orders to 'Go Ahead' Reveal That Draftsman Staff Is Too Small for Tasks and Inadequately Housed

### Coney Site Held Up Again

Prall 'Whitewash' Report of Mayor and Denunciation of His Critics Out To-day

Investigation into the alarming situation which confronts the public schools of the city because of the indifference of the Hylan administration during the last three years shows that even in the eleventh-hour rush to lay down a construction program, red tape, departmental clashing and general inefficiency are hampering the building of schools.

At the last meeting of the Board of Education, Anning S. Prall, its president, told the Superintendent of Buildings to go ahead with his plans under the appropriation of \$52,000,000. Inadequate headquarters for draftsman, the superintendent made the completion of plans impossible. In addition the staff is too small to handle the situation.

Another retarding influence is the distribution of authority between the Board of Education and the Board of Superintendents, which has emphasized in the controversy between Controller Craig and Dr. Shallow Neptune Avenue, red tape is not only holding up school activity and dangerously crowding the school children under insanitary conditions, but is retarding the return of the city's workers to a normal state. Thousands of men in the building trades industry that he put to work if the building program is not started.

At the meeting of the Board of Estimate yesterday the controversy over the Neptune Avenue site, which was scheduled for discussion, was put over for a week, upon the motion of President F. H. La Guardia of the Board of Aldermen.

In moving postponement, Major La Guardia said:

"The conditions in this school district are the worst in the city, and I would like to have this matter laid over for a week. If we refer it back to the Board of Education we will be playing into the hands of certain persons who are trying to obstruct the construction of the schools."

It had been moved to refer back to the Board of Education the school sites on Neptune Avenue which the Board on Finance and Budget had recommended.

The Board of Estimate adopted a resolution selecting Hampton Avenue, between Irwin Avenue and Jeffrey Street, Brooklyn, as a site for a school, and authorized the action of January 23, when a plot of women's civics center, Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth streets, on Clarkson Street, Brooklyn, was selected.

President Prall has prepared a report for Mayor Hylan to enable the latter to reply to his critics on the school situation. It is the first report issued by the Board of Education since the Hylan administration went into office.

The document will be made public this afternoon, it was said at the Board of Education. It is understood that it completely whitewashes the whole situation and gives the lie to the report of the school board's inefficiency. It shows that recently was made public showing the insanitary and unsafe conditions of forty of the schools in the city.

## Becker Admits Transfer Of Evidence to Sorro

Borrowed It to Oppose Another Trial for Cohen; Investigator Also on Stand

Alfred L. Becker, former Deputy Attorney General of New York, and Philip M. Musica, his chief investigator during the trial of the alleged murderers of Barnett Baff, West Washington Market poultry dealer, were put on the stand by the defense in the trial of Joseph A. Sorro before Judge Mulqueen in General Sessions yesterday. Sorro is being tried on a charge of perjury growing out of the conviction of Joseph Cohen in connection with the murder of Baff.

On cross-examination by Assistant District Attorney Pecora, Becker admitted that he had acted as counsel for Sorro from January, 1920, to February, 1921. He acknowledged that he had turned over to Walter Rogers Deuel, who is now Sorro's counsel, documentary evidence in the Sorro case which had been borrowed for use by him in opposing a motion for a new trial for Cohen. Becker also admitted hiring Musica as his chief investigator, knowing that Musica had a criminal record and that at the time he was employed he was associated with Deuel and that Deuel was acting as attorney for some defendants in the Baff case.

Musica admitted on cross-examination that he had a criminal record. He sought to make clear that he was not a stool pigeon but an investigator. For his work as an investigator he was paid \$20 a day and expenses, he said.

## Callao Denies by Radio She Was Sunk by Pirates

The steamship Callao from Rio de Janeiro, operated by the Munson Line, which was erroneously reported as having been sunk by pirates, is now a guest of the Alimony Club in New York.

The alarming rumors relative to the Callao found their way to Buenos Ayres, and according to cable reports received here from the Argentine capital yesterday the American colony had become greatly worried. It was said that passengers booked to sail from Buenos Ayres on the steamship Aelous, another Munson Line vessel, on Monday, had become alarmed over the prospects of their contemplated trip on that vessel.

## Fire in Adjoining Building Empties Picture Theater

About half of an audience of 800 in a motion picture theater at 209 Park Row picked up their hats and children and hurried out last night when fire engines clattered up to extinguish a fire at 211 Park Row. The rest were prevailed upon by the manager of the house and a patrolman who ran in to keep the seats. Nobody was hurt in the rush.

The fire burst out three floors of the building in which it started. The damage was estimated at \$2,600.

## Slated for Edwards's Job

Confidence in the Mayor's Choice

Frank K. Bowers

Confidence in the Mayor's Choice

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## Anti-Tammany Council Called By Republicans

Conference Next Wednesday Designed to Settle Upon Candidates and Campaign Details for Next Fall

### Harmony First Essential

Unwise to Open Fight With Broken Field Is Warning of Steering Committee

The Republican steering committee, representing the various borough conference committees, met yesterday at the National Republican Club and issued a statement extending an invitation to representatives of all the independent anti-Tammany groups to meet the Republicans in a preliminary conference at the Hotel Commodore, July 13, at 10 o'clock in the morning, for the purpose of a full and frank discussion and "to make a serious effort to agree upon candidates and a plan of campaign" for the municipal election.

Henry W. Taft, chairman of the steering committee, presided at the meeting. Mr. Taft and other members of the group would not commit themselves in regard to the plans of the Republicans for the city campaign, except in so far as the statement set forth. The statement follows:

"At the conference on Tuesday last of the committee of twenty-five members representing the various borough organizations of the five boroughs, the testimony was that among citizens of all political faiths there was widespread dissatisfaction with the Tammany-Hylan administration, not only on account of its sins of commission, but for its failure to initiate a constructive municipal program and to effect an improvement in the efficiency of the city service. It was agreed that it was of vital importance that this sentiment should be organized in terms of united political strength. As the great preponderance of voters opposed to Tammany is affiliated with the Republican party, it was deemed necessary the most potent instrumentality for organizing public opinion."

Anti-Tammany Trend Nourished

"The increase in the Republican vote in this city in recent years shows that there is a strong anti-Tammany trend, and it is of vital importance that this tendency should not be checked. But if we would succeed in the next mayoralty campaign it is of equal importance that there should be brought into effective harmony all groups of citizens in accord with the Republicans in believing that the city should be rescued from Tammany control. It would be unwise to start with a broken field. The advancement of individual candidates must be subordinated to the exigencies of the general political situation."

"Wide and concerted action will result in the selection of candidates who will inspire confidence in the voters that, if elected, they will give to the city an administration which will establish a system of public education adequate to the needs of America's greatest city, will avoid such conflict of interest as to start with many candidates, and will establish a standard of living for the city employees, will effect a satisfactory solution of the transit problem, and generally will restore honesty, efficiency and loyalty in the public service."

"To accomplish these purposes the Republican conference decided to invite all those desirous of cooperating to confer to the end that, by full and frank discussion, a serious effort may be made to agree upon candidates and a plan of campaign. It was decided to establish permanent headquarters at a later date, where all such conferences will be held. A preliminary conference will be held at the Hotel Commodore on Wednesday, July 13, 1921, at 10 a. m.

Committee to Work on Platform

"A committee was appointed by the Republican conference to cooperate with independent persons and groups in collecting and arranging as a basis for a platform, information showing the wastefulness and inefficiency of the present Tammany administration. This committee will be organized with the necessary assistants, in the near future."

Joseph M. Price, chairman of the Coalition Committee, when shown the document, declared that it was highly satisfactory to his committee.

Lieut. Becker Rebuked For Attacks on Jews

Mrs. Matilda Pfeiffer, of 20 East 110th Street, captain of a Democratic election district, won a jury verdict in Harlem Municipal Court yesterday before Justice Jacob Panken over Police Lieutenant John Becker, who sought to oust her from premises owned by him as an undesirable tenant.

Following the decision the court ordered former Assemblyman Julius to oust Becker from the premises. The court also ordered Becker to pay the costs of the trial, which were \$100.

Testimony of tenants was that Becker ordered city detectives to go to the home in which Mrs. Pfeiffer lived and take the occupants into custody for alleged card playing. When the persons were arrested they were directed to go to the police station. Becker used these tactics to get Jewish tenants out of the building.

Advertisements inserted in newspapers by Becker offering an apartment for rent were read in court. They are said to have contained the words: "No Jews need apply."

Bride Costs Him Pulpit

Young Pastor Is Ousted for Posing as Single Man

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

PHILADELPHIA, July 8.—Love and ambition clashed for the Rev. Mr. Clarence Gilbert, a secret bridegroom of a year, who has just been ousted from his charge at Bellevue, Del., because he posed as a single man.

Mr. Gilbert, a preacher of the local Methodist Episcopal Church, married Miss Betty Berry in Washington in July, 1920. The young minister was admitted to the Wilmington Conference last March and was assigned as a supply at Bellevue. He told the church authorities he was unmarried.

At the home of his wife's parents to-day Mr. Gilbert told of his ambition to enter a college or a theological seminary and how he had planned to take his wife to a nursing school after he had been assigned to a larger congregation.

## East Siders Too Heat Weary To Hunt Cats for Bounties

Proscribed Animals Rest in Peace on Baking Sidewalks as Thousands Revel in Hydrant Geysers, Then Try to Sleep on Roofs and in Parks

"No, we won't have no trouble on the East Side to-night," the patrolman said, lazily swinging his stick as he leaned against the lamppost and gazed down the sweltering darkness of the side street. "They're all too hot to make a fuss with anything but a fan. They're too hot even to take a bath."

Even the children sank into noisy and quarrelsome inaction when it became too dark to play baseball or to throw vegetable stalks from one to another. Babies, too hot to hold, lay quiet beside their mothers on the steps to catch some passing breeze, swaying groups on the corners. Old men dreamed of Russian snows on their campstools. And the cats, regardless of the bounty which has been placed upon their heads, stretched unmolested by the curb.

Only a light here and there in an upper window showed where some mother had braved the heat of the tenement to prepare for her baby. The occasional white flash of a fan betokened an invalid sitting in the dusk to avoid the heat of a lamp, and now and again a head leaned far out over the street to catch some passing breeze.

For the rest, East Siders as had not fled to the beaches had sought the open air of the roofs or were blocking the narrow streets as they rocked backward and forward on chairs and crowded around the steps. Even the oldest of the fat, unkempt gossips was silenced by the torrid night.

Only the cats, the tenementa, became almost a luxury, bringing as it did the chance of a misdirected spray or the bursting of a hose. Children clean recreation on Sundays is not seeking a wide-open European Sunday as the Crafts organization was indicated. Neither is it seeking a Craftarian, blueshevik, puritan Sunday, which is just as foreign and un-American as the Continental Sunday. We want an American Sunday, in which we can worship God according to the dictates of our own consciences and participate in God's open air and sunshine on the same day.

"If direct you to conduct such campaign as necessary at once to defeat the opposition's dangerous program. If we do not act at once America will be some morning ere long to find the air outside of an exceedingly blue hue."

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